

THE DAILY HERALD

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DAILY HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1902.

THE COALITION PRINCIPLE.

"Those who watch keenly the current, recognize thoroughly that the drift of Liberal political opinion in New Brunswick, has set against further acceptance of the coalition principle in provincial politics, either on the administration or the opposition side. Those newspapers which declare for coalition and distort past election verdicts as favorable to their contention, have abandoned the journalistic function of swimming abreast of public opinion much less leading it, and lag behind."

The above quotation is from the Moncton Transcript, which is calling loudly for a division of local political parties on federal party lines, a scheme which the Tories attempted to force on New Brunswick in the last federal election, but which was overwhelmingly rejected by the electors at the polls.

The newspapers which declare for the coalition principle recognize the force of public opinion in its favor as declared in several election contests, and very strongly emphasized in the contest of 1899. The question came sharply before the electors during that campaign. The Tory convention at Moncton the previous year declared for Dominion party lines, ordered all Conservative supporters of the local government into line under Dr Stockton, and in the constituencies the opposition candidates nominated were Conservatives. Hon Mr Emmerson, who was then premier, took strong ground against the forcing of such an issue, and made his appeal to the people entirely outside of federal party issues and divisions, and the province gave him a victory that almost entirely wiped out those who sought the introduction of national questions into the provincial arena. Possibly the decision of the people on that occasion was influenced to a considerable extent by the newspapers which urged a continuation of the coalition principle which had given New Brunswick strong and progressive government ever since Mr. Blair's accession in 1883, and it is also within the range of probability, also, that the newspapers which still advocate coalition are gauging public opinion as faithfully and as surely as they did in the campaign of 1899.

AN UNPOPULAR MEASURE.

We quoted the other day the expressions of a Montreal clergyman recently from England to the effect that the non-conformists of England are up in arms against the educational bill now before the Imperial parliament, and the force of the storm against the government is apparently assuming a threatening attitude, and may overwhelm Mr. Balfour and his party.

Mr. Ford in his cables to the New York Tribune, says that not since the days of the Irish home rule bill has any government measure created such widespread excitement and fierce opposition as the educational eccentricity which Mr. Balfour expects so place upon the statute book of Great Britain this year. Many of the Prime Minister's own supporters appreciate the position of affairs very accurately, and it is even rumored that some Unionist members will take steps, when Parliament meets, to inform Mr. Balfour of the growing disinclination to vote like machines for a measure which they know is repugnant to the desires of the vast majority of their constituents. The bill is reactionary in the extreme. It proposes to abolish direct popular control of schools for which people are rated and taxed. Women are taking a prominent part in the demonstrations against the scheme, and everywhere the cry is "No rate without control."

It is unfortunate for Mr. Balfour that in the early days of his premiership he should be associated with the promotion of such an unpopular measure. The government have had warning in the result of several bye-elections that they are inviting defeat by attempting to force the bill through parliament, but it has reached such a stage of advancement that to abandon the measure would be to invite ridicule, hence Mr. Balfour is on the horns of a dilemma. The discussion of the measure in parliament, in the press and on the hustings has aroused acrimonious feelings between the state church and the non-conformists, the latter claiming that the government is influenced by the clerics of the former church who desire to obtain greater influence of the public school system of the country, and who will practically have control of the school governing boards under the proposed law.

The young man who writes the scare headlines for the Telegraph got considerably mixed in displaying the features of the sudden death of Cnas. Dennison at Marysville. This is what the Telegraph man produced, "Whiskey Kills a Fredericton Man." Charles Dennison tried the Brand they sell in Marysville and soon expired." Two glaring errors are apparent in this scare head. Dennison is a Marysville and not a Fredericton man, and the whiskey he drank was not bought in Marysville. There is no liquor for sale in the Nashwaak town, nor has there been for many years.

The effects of the strike in the anthracite coal regions are far reaching. For instance the public schools of Brooklyn, N. Y., are threatened with a coal famine and may have to be closed up in a week for want of fuel. Only 1,000 tons of coal remain on hand for supplying 145 buildings. By the most rigid economy this amount can be made to last one week. As it has been found impossible to get a supply of coal in this country for the winter months for the sixteen public schools of Yonkers, the Board of Education have decided to import coal from Wales, rather than close the schools.

Judge Lynch of Quebec, an appointee of the Conservative government, in a public address at the unveiling of a monument to fallen South African heroes last week at Granby, paid a neat tribute to the Premier of Canada. He said: "As a Canadian I am proud of the Premier of Canada, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who has been representing Canada at the Coronation. He has done honour to us and we should be proud of him."

The ancient adage that "the pen is mightier than the sword" has added importance and creditability in view of Lord Dundonald's recent order that hereafter the sword will not be part of the Canadian Mounted troops equipment for war, but will only be carried on holiday parade. The pen will never be superseded as a weapon of attack and defence, and its influence is growing every day.

President Roosevelt is still suffering from injuries received in the trolley accident at Pittsfield, Mass., and has found an operation on his leg necessary. It was performed yesterday at Indianapolis, and the president is forced to abandon his western trip and return to Washington. He will be laid up for ten days, but no serious results are feared.

The Canadian regiment which has been garrisoning Halifax for the past two years, will be disbanded at once, and it is said that the commander, Col. White, will become D. O. C. of this district.

A verdict in the St. John murder trial will probably be reached this evening, and there is a general belief that the jury will disagree, so contradictory has been the evidence produced.

Faelten System.

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Sept. 23—dtt

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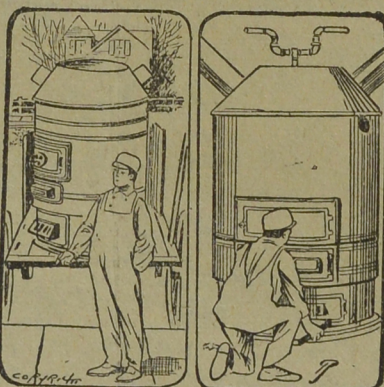
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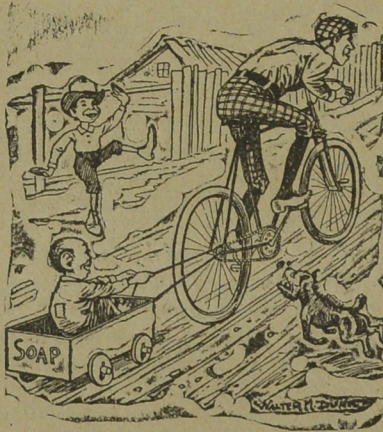
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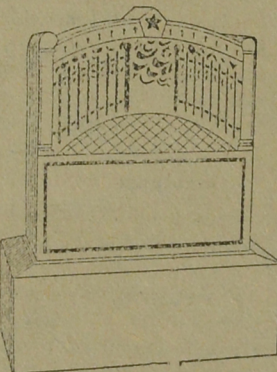
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